



March 21, 2017

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan and Democratic Leader Pelosi:

On behalf of the National Council of Chain Restaurants (NCCR), I write to share our support for the American Health Care Act (AHCA) and ask that all Members of Congress vote in favor of the legislation when it comes up in the House of Representatives.

As the Affordable Care Act passes its seventh anniversary, there remain serious and continuing challenges for restaurant companies and their small business franchisees as a result of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The American Health Care Act achieves one of the restaurant industry's top priorities - effective repeal of the employer mandate which, over the course of the ACA's existence, forced many restaurant companies to reduce workers' hours at a time when unemployment remained stubbornly high and many workers were underemployed.

In addition to passage of the AHCA, we look forward to forthcoming legislation, which cannot be offered as part of the AHCA, that will supplement the new health insurance marketplace envisioned in this bill. Association health plans and other reforms to the insurance market will lower costs for individuals and bring greater access to health insurance.

It is important to note that the chain restaurant industry has long sought responsible health care reforms which should provide common sense reforms to lower the cost of providing health coverage to employees and increasing access to health insurance. The House vote to pass the AHCA this week is an important step toward achieving these goals.

Thank you for your consideration of these views.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Green
Executive Director

cc: Members of the U.S. House of Representatives